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Questions and Comments.

"Most of us enjoy having questions put to us,—because they set us to thinking and investigating." . . . "The things that have interested you are likely to interest others, and one need not be a skillful writer to tell of the things which have interested him." . . . "Send in your questions to the Editor." These are a few phrases from President Ware's "Letter to Members"—printed in Vol. II, page 58-62 of this JOURNAL.

In accordance with the spirit of this letter, which most members will find worth reading again, we are attempting to initiate this department which we hope the members will keep well filled. Send in your questions and the editor will answer them, or more probably, pass them on for someone else to answer. If necessary, we will scour the earth for the expert who is best equipped to tackle the problem. Then we will print question and answer together.

Then, if any member is not satisfied with the answer, send in your answer and comment.

Thus we shall hope to make the JOURNAL more truly what it is intended to be, a medium for the interchange of ideas and information. May we not expect that this will produce a stronger sense of personal acquaintance among the members, and greatly enhance the value of our association to each of us?

E. J. W.

American Fern Society

Members of the Society will be sorry to learn of the death of one of our members, Mr. Henry Dautun. Mr. Dautun had been especially interested in ferns and grasses. His herbarium was purchased by the Brooklyn

Botanic Garden; his botanical books by various botanists. A more extended account will be published in the next number.

New or corrected addresses:

G. L. Moxley, 1445 Regina Ave., Los Angeles, California.

S. H. Burnham, R. F. D. No. 2, Hudson Falls, N. Y.

L. S. Hopkins has accepted the appointment as head of the biology department of a new Ohio Normal School recently organized with headquarters at Kent, Ohio.

R. A. Ware, who has not been well during the past spring, left with Mrs. Ware for Europe, April 26th, sailing on the Saxonnia from New York. His correspondence address will be "American Express Co., Rue Scribe, Paris."

Mr. Hopkins sends word that the Society herbarium has recently received an addition in the shape of forty sheets of Massachusetts ferns from Rev. J. A. Bates. Mr. Hopkins also states that he has recently been able to obtain four authentic specimens of *Botrychium ternatum* from Japan, one of which he is presenting to the herbarium.

Since the appearance of the Annual Report, the name of Mr. James G. Scott of Germantown, Pa., has been added to the membership list. Mr. Scott is a son of the late R. R. Scott, a pioneer in American horticulture, known to all fern lovers as the discoverer of Scott's spleenwort (*Asplenium ebenoides*). The new member is an officer in the Germantown Horticultural Society.

The Vermont Botanical Club will meet July 1st and 2d, at Townsend, Vt., northwest of Brattleboro. All

interested are invited to attend and should apply to the Committee of the Vermont Botanical Club for information. Mr. H. G. Rugg is a member of the Committee.

Members of the Society who can attend the Vermont Club field meetings will undoubtedly have a very enjoyable time as the Vermont trips are noted for their interest, and Vermont is an especially good field for fern lovers. Those who cannot take advantage of the Vermont trip are urged to arrange local trips by corresponding with other members in their vicinity. Send in advance notices of such trips, and afterward send in an account of them. Notices sent in during June will be printed, according to present indications, early in July.

Mr. H. G. Rugg offers specimens of *Selaginella apus* from Hanover, New Hampshire, to any member who will send postage.

Mr. Winslow asks the help of the members of the Society in a campaign for new members, and new subscribers for the JOURNAL. Send to him the names of any whom you think might be interested. Find out whether the public library nearest you has the JOURNAL on its shelves. If not, try to persuade the officials that they ought to have a complete file.

With the third number of Volume III, the JOURNAL will begin the publication of a descriptive fern flora of the State of Washington, by Prof. T. C. Frye, professor of Botany at the University of Washington, and Mrs. M. M. Jackson. It was hoped that it might be begun in the present number, but Prof. Frye left for Alaska before proof could be sent to him. The present number was held up some time in the hope that the proof might be returned in time for use.

We have learned that one or two members failed to receive the previous number of the JOURNAL. If there are others whose copy went astray, a letter or postal to the managing editor will receive prompt attention.

Any requests for sample copies should also be sent to Mr. Winslow, as well as new subscriptions for the JOURNAL. Applications for membership should be sent to the secretary, Mr. Hopkins.

With reference to the preceding paragraph, it is possible that a brief statement of the conditions and advantages of membership in the Society may be of interest to some who are now subscribers only. This is suggested by the receipt of a new subscription from a contributor to the pages of the JOURNAL.

The first condition of membership is interest in ferns, or the work of the Fern Society. The second is the payment of the annual dues of one dollar. Anyone wishing to join may do so by merely sending name and dues to our Secretary, Mr. L. S. Hopkins, Kent, Ohio.

What are the advantages of joining? The possible advantages are numerous, depending upon the particular interests of the person. The JOURNAL is the first perhaps to be noted. In the past, it has comprised 128 pages per year. For 1913, it is likely to offer more than that if the treasury of the Society will permit. The use of the Society Herbarium is a second advantage. Members may borrow any specimen it contains for study. Members interested in collecting ferns are urged to send to the JOURNAL for publication statements of what they particularly want, or to write to any member in any part of the country for exchanges. The last Annual Report contains a complete list of members. Members have in the past arranged field collecting trips for their locality. More of these should be scheduled and announced in the JOURNAL.